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TO

Amend the law relating to the expenses of Returning Officers at Parliamentary Elections in Ireland. A.D. 1895.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the law relating to the expenses and charges of returning officers at parliamentary elections in Ireland:

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. (1.) The Ballot Act, 1872, and the Parliamentary Elections (Returning Officers) Act, 1875, as modified by this Act, and this Act shall be construed as one Act. *Interpretation and extent of Act.*

(2.) This Act shall apply only to parliamentary elections in Ireland.

2. (1.) The First Schedule to the Parliamentary Elections (Returning Officers) Act, 1875 (herein-after called the principal Act), is hereby repealed, and the Schedule to this Act substituted therefor. *Revised schedule of returning officers charges. Liability of defeated candidates for same.*

(2.) The amount of charges mentioned in section two of the principal Act shall, where there are more candidates than vacancies, and any candidate failing to be elected has received less than one half of the lowest number of votes received by a successful candidate at the election, be paid by the candidate so failing, and if more than one candidate so failing, then by such candidates so failing in equal share.

3. Any person from whom payment of any charges is claimed by the returning officer may, within *one calendar month* after the day upon which an account of such charges was delivered, apply

[Bill 8.]

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Short title
of Act.

4. This Act may be cited as the Parliamentary Elections (Returning Officers Expenses) Act, 1886.

SCHEDULE.

A.D. 1886.

CHARGES OF RETURNING OFFICERS.

The following are the maximum charges to be made by the returning officer, but the charges are in no case to exceed the sum actually and necessarily paid

5		£ s. d.
	For preparing and publishing notice of election -	2 2 0
	For preparing and supplying the nomination papers - - - - -	1 1 0

* For hire and necessary fitting up of rooms for polling (this item includes damages or expenses for or by the use of such rooms).

The necessary expenses not to exceed the sum of 2*l.* where not more than 400 voters are assigned to each room, with 10*s.* for every additional 100 voters assigned to each room.

* For constructing a polling station or booth with its fittings and compartments.

(This item is for the construction of a booth in the open air where no pre-existing structure is available as a polling station.)

The necessary expenses not exceeding the sum of 4*l.* 4*s.* where not more than five hundred voters are assigned to each station or booth, and 10*s.* for each hundred electors so assigned above 500.

* In Ireland the returning officer shall use a court house where one is available for polling, and his maximum charge for using and fitting the same shall not exceed 1*0s.* for each 100 voters assigned to such court house.

There shall not be in any polling district more than one polling station to which less than 400 voters shall be assigned.

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	£	s.	d.	
* For each ballot box required to be purchased	0	10	0	
Ballot boxes purchased for any election shall be kept by the returning officer for the time being for use (without charge) at subsequent elections in the same county or borough.				5
* For the use of each ballot box when hired	0	2	6	
* For stationery at each polling station	0	2	6	
			for each 100 voters as- signed to each polling station.	10
* For printing and providing ballot papers, per 1,000	0	15	0	
No greater number of ballot papers shall be chargeable than is 10 per centum greater than the total number of voters registered.				15
* For copies of the register			The sum payable by statute for the necessary copies.	20
*For every person employed in counting votes, not exceeding four such persons where the number of registered electors does not exceed 4,000, and one for every additional 2,000	1	1	0	
For making the return to the clerk of the Crown	1	1	0	25
*For the preparation and publication of notices (other than notices of election).			Not exceeding for the whole of such notices 10 <i>l.</i> , and 1 <i>l.</i> for every additional 2,000 electors above 5,000.	30
*For professional and other assistance in and about the conduct of a contested election.			Not exceeding 20 <i>l.</i> , and an additional 1 <i>l.</i> for every 1,000 registered voters above 5,000.	
For services and expenses in relation to receiving and publishing accounts of election expenses in respect of each candidate	3	2	0	35
*For all other expenses in the case of a contested election.			Not exceeding 10 <i>l.</i> , and an additional 1 <i>l.</i> for every 1,000 electors above 3,000	40

		£	s.	d.	A.D. 1886.
	* For each presiding officer in counties -	5	0	0	
	* For each presiding officer in boroughs -	4	0	0	
5	This sum includes all travelling allowances and expenses, and the presiding officers are to convey the ballot boxes to and from the polling station at their own expense. There shall not be more than one presiding officer for each 400 voters registered.				
10	* For one clerk at each polling station where not less than 400 voters are assigned to such station -	1	1	0	
	This sum includes all travelling allowances and expenses.				
15	* For an additional clerk at a polling station for every 500 voters or fraction thereof beyond the first 500 assigned to such polling station -	1	1	0	
	This sum includes all travelling allowances and expenses.				
20	The items marked * shall be chargeable only in the case of a contested election.				

